



# The Aberdeen Advocate

## Fall 2020 Edition

City of Aberdeen | 60 N. Parke Street Aberdeen, MD 21001 | (410) 272-1600

### Amid Crisis, Aberdeen Continues to Move Forward!

While we've all had our lives disrupted by the pandemic and/or national civil unrest, Aberdeen has continued to forge ahead. Harford County has one of the lowest virus infection rates in Maryland and Aberdeen's incidents are significantly lower based on the population. To sustain these efforts, remember to practice social distancing, wash your hands often, and wear a mask.

Although the challenges have been unprecedented and significant, Aberdeen continues to be a city "On the Move"! From renovating our newly designated Main Street, to a historic partnership with Havre de Grace for future water purchases, to movement on Upper Chesapeake Hospital's new Aberdeen Campus, our city's continual positive momentum is a glidepath towards even brighter days.

In this edition of the Fall 2020 Advocate, we'll take a closer look at the extraordinary progress our community has made even through the challenges we've face. And when we finally overcome COVID-19 and resume what will be the "new norm," we'll be even better positioned in a city that has never stopped being "On the Move!"



**ABERDEEN IS COUNTING ON YOU!**  
**CENSUS 2020**



### FEATURED COMMUNITY EVENTS

EVERY  
**THUR**  
4PM-7PM  
(THRU OCT)

**ABERDEEN FARMERS MARKET**  
WEEKLY AT ABERDEEN FESTIVAL PARK

**SEPT 26**  
9AM-2PM

**JUNK IN THE TRUNK**  
MARKET/CRAFT FAIR AT ABERDEEN FESTIVAL PARK

**DEC 5**  
ALL DAY

**Christmas Street 2020**  
PARADE, CRAFT FAIR, TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY & MORE

Full List of Events Found on Back Cover

### IN THIS ISSUE

- Yard Waste Services (pg.2)
- Help for Aberdeen Businesses (pg.2)
- 5K Races in Downtown Aberdeen (pg.3)
  - New Mural at Train Station (pg.3)
- A Time Before the Pandemic (pg.4)
- New Water Purchase Agreement (pg.5)
- Fire Department Renovations (pg.5)
- MD Main Street Designation (pg.5)
- Trash/Recycling Info (Back Cover)

## Can't Get Enough of the Advocate?

Join the near 1,500 subscribers who receive weekly electronic editions of our newsletter by visiting:

[www.aberdeenmd.gov/enews](http://www.aberdeenmd.gov/enews)

It's **FREE!!!**

# We Are Here to Serve You

**ABERDEEN CITY STAFF HAVE TIRELESSLY ENSURED THAT RESIDENTS LIKE YOU RECEIVE THE SAME QUALITY SERVICE YOU'VE COME TO EXPECT IN A SAFE MANNER REFLECTIVE OF THE TIMES. TAKE A LOOK AT THIS SNAPSHOT OF OUR ONGOING INITIATIVES, INCLUDING HOW SOME SERVICES HAVE ADJUSTED TO LIFE DURING THE PANDEMIC.**



## City Hall Remains Open for Business

While COVID-19 may tense or lax restrictions, at the time of writing, Aberdeen City Hall remains open for business! In place of a traditional reception area, we now have a contactless, self-service lobby complete with directory and personal sanitation. While we encourage those who normally come to City Hall to pay their bills online, the inside Finance window remains open for personal service. Online payments can be made by visiting [aberdeenmd.gov/billpay](https://aberdeenmd.gov/billpay). Be certain to visit our homepage frequently for the latest developments and closures.

**ABERDEEN CITY HALL (60 N. PARKE ST) IS OPEN MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY FROM 8:30AM - 5:00PM**

## Bundles, Bags, and Brown Toters

Despite limited service in the opening months of 2020, our Yard Waste collection is in full swing! From now until December 19th, the City of Aberdeen is collecting yard waste. Zones 1 & 2 are collected on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the Month, while Zones 3 & 4 are collected on the 2nd and 4th Fridays. Deposit your waste in an appropriate container; a paper bag, cardboard box, 64-gallon brown totter or bundled with twine for branches or sticks. View the 'Trash and Recycling Guide' at [aberdeenmd.gov/edocs](https://aberdeenmd.gov/edocs)



## Democracy: An Essential Service

Throughout the ongoing crisis, Mayor McGrady and the Aberdeen City Council have continued to legislate on your behalf. To date, Aberdeen's elective body has conducted thirty plus meetings in 2020. Visit [aberdeenmd.gov/live](https://aberdeenmd.gov/live) to learn more and engage in our civic process.

## Say 'Chip, Chip, Cheerio' to Your Tree Limbs!

Have some bulkier yard waste in need of disposal? We offer FREE chipping service year-round on Tuesdays! Just call us before noon on Mondays at (410) 272-1414 to schedule! Limbs, branches, and stumps cannot exceed 6 inches in diameter and should be placed (unbundled) neatly facing the road.

## Aberdeen Business Owners: We Are Here to Help!

Has your Aberdeen-based business been adversely impacted by Maryland's shutdown and subsequent restrictions due to COVID-19? We have been working with local businesses one-on-one to guide them through to the other side of this crisis. If your business is struggling and in need of guidance, contact Mrs. Phyllis Grover or Ms. Stefani Spector at 410-272-1600.

## Twice is Nice!

We produced twice as many newsletters during the height of the pandemic. We have since resumed our once-per-week schedule. Visit [aberdeenmd.gov/enews](https://aberdeenmd.gov/enews) to subscribe & receive weekly updates!



# The Latest Around Town



## Mermaids Splash Through Downtown Aberdeen

Last month saw the return of racing through downtown Aberdeen in the form of the Mermaid Run 5K. Created by the O'Mara family to honor the tragic loss of their young daughter Ariella, this first annual aquatic-themed race utilized social distancing and staggered start times to ensure the safety of all participants. Special thanks to sponsors The TEARS Foundation and Blue Cheetah for operating the event! The next 5K in Aberdeen will be the Cats & Bats 5K on October 31st. Visit [bluecheetahtiming.com](http://bluecheetahtiming.com) to learn more and to register.



## 40 Years of Service at APD

Officer First Class Karen Kerins of the Aberdeen Police Department retired this summer after forty years of service. During her tenure, Officer Kerins was the first female officer in Aberdeen, the first female K9 handler in Harford County, and the School Resource Officer for Aberdeen Schools for 12+ years. We thank you,

Officer Kerins, for your years of diligent service to our City and wish you a long, healthy, and prosperous retirement!



## Hospital Worker Meal Initiative

In April, the City of Aberdeen partnered with the Chamber of Commerce to collect nearly \$18,000 in donations from Aberdeen businesses and community members to provide twenty days of meals for 75 hospital workers. This single charitable effort showed support for the frontline workers at local hospitals AND restored some lost revenue to our local restaurants who suffered from the restrictions of the pandemic.



## Deacons' Cupboard Food Pantry

Located at 50 E Bel Air Avenue, Grove Presbyterian Church operates a weekly food pantry (Deacons' Cupboard) on Wednesday evenings from 7-8PM. If you or a neighbor are in need of assistance during these challenging times, please participate in this wonderful opportunity.

## Train Murals

Muralist Jack Pabis painted two murals at the train station, depicting our rich history of locomotive travel. Funded by a grant, these murals will make a great gateway to the city!



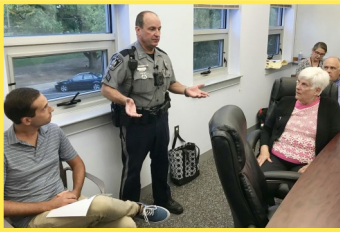
## Eagles on Main Scavenger Hunt

Looking to pass the time amidst this era of social distancing? Why not do a scavenger hunt in downtown Aberdeen? Our city's deep-rooted patriotism has attracted TEN eagles to our downtown area! Can you find them all? Visit [aberdeenmd.gov/eagles](http://aberdeenmd.gov/eagles) to study the clues and start your hunt for the Eagles on Main!



# A Time Before the Pandemic

BEFORE TODAY'S WORLD OF SOCIAL DISTANCING AND FACE COVERING, ABERDEEN WAS POISED FOR HISTORIC LEVELS OF ECONOMIC GROWTH. LET'S TAKE A BRIEF LOOK ON WHERE WE WERE BEFORE THE VIRUS PEAKED.



**August 26, 2019**  
The Aberdeen Police Department begins implementation of a high-tech body camera system.



**September 10, 2019**  
40+ prospective business owners meet with experts at Aberdeen's first ever Entrepreneur Expo!



**September 16, 2019**  
The Aberdeen Fire Department begins renovations of its' main fire house on 21 N Rogers St.



**October 19, 2019**  
A thousand or more patrons break bread at Aberdeen's first Food Trucks in the Park Festival!



**October 11, 2019**  
Aberdeen's first Starbucks is dedicated as the business' 62nd Military Family Store in the nation!



**October 3, 2019**  
The Middleton Rd Extension, which connects Route 22 to Beards Hill Road, is completed in record time.



**November 5, 2019**  
Residents across the City exercise their right to vote in Aberdeen's Municipal Elections.



**November 2019**  
Work starts on the complete reconstruction of West Bel Air Avenue (Main Street).



**December 6, 2019**  
Labella Pet Boutique, a full-service pet grooming center, opens for business at 33 N Parke Street!



**January 17, 2020**  
Aberdeen partners with BGE to provide electric car charging stations at Festival Park & Ripken Stadium.



**January 1, 2020**  
The Aberdeen PD opens its Blessing Box for community members to drop off items for those less fortunate.



**December 15, 2019**  
Aberdeen stays toasty while shopping around the fire at the first ever Christmas Around the World!



**February 4, 2020**  
Prost German Restaurant begins serving up deliciously authentic German cuisine in Aberdeen.



**February 10, 2020**  
Aberdeen City Hall delivers over 1,500 donated Valentine's Day Cards to Perry Point VA Medical Center.



**March 4, 2020**  
Mayor McGrady gets a new hairdo as we welcome the Fading Theory to our downtown (32 N Parke St)

STILL  
ON THE  
MOVE!

USE THE HASHTAG **#ABERDEENONTHEMOVE** TO KEEP UP WITH US!

# Aberdeen: A City on the Move!



Aberdeen Mayor McGrady

HdG Mayor Martin

## Aberdeen & HdG Reach Landmark Agreement

After years of discussions, proposals and negotiations, the City of Aberdeen reached a historic agreement to purchase water from our neighbors in Havre de Grace. Over the next few years, the connecting pipeline will be built along Route 40, with each city paying for the construction up to their connecting borders. Aberdeen will continue to produce its own water and purchase some from Harford County. This agreement will provide us safe and clean drinking water at a lower rate for the next twenty years. This partnership between municipalities is a prime example of what two governmental bodies can accomplish for the collective good!

## Aberdeen Fire Department Renovations

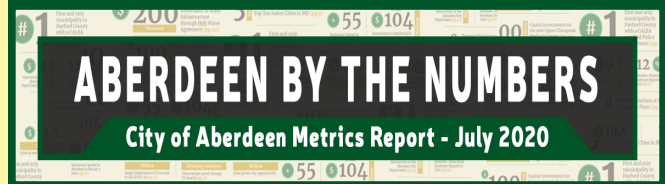
Located on Rogers Street, the aging Station 1 of the Aberdeen Fire Department is in the middle of a \$9 million renovation that will greatly enhance efficiency in essential emergency fire, rescue and emergency medical services. As the City of Aberdeen grows, our emergency services must be prepared to meet future demands. Construction is scheduled to be completed by mid-November.

## Full-Service Medical Facility on the Way!

The Upper Chesapeake Medical Center Aberdeen Campus is on the way! Plans were approved by the Members of the Maryland Health Care Commission, paving the way for a new era of healthcare in Aberdeen! With a global health crisis looming, Aberdeen is better postured for tomorrow.

## New Banners in Downtown Area

Nothing symbolizes Aberdeen's progress greater than our brand-new 'Aberdeen on the Move' banners! We partnered with local businesses to hoist these brand new banners on utility poles throughout our community! The best part? All of these banners came at zero cost to our taxpayers thanks to our wonderful business partners.



The City of Aberdeen published an in-depth metrics report that showcases the monumental growth our City has enjoyed over the last several years. While COVID-19 temporarily tempered our momentum, Aberdeen is once again "On the Move!" with numerous ambitious new projects in the works in 2020 and beyond!

## Achievements at a Glance

**3 Years**

Aberdeen recognized as one of the Top Ten Safest Cities in Maryland.

**12%**

Aberdeen-Maintained Roadways Repaved in 2019 (6.97 Miles)!

**\$104M+**

Investments in Residential and Commercial properties in less than four years.

To View the Full Report, Visit:  
[www.aberdeenmd.gov/metrics2020](http://www.aberdeenmd.gov/metrics2020)

## World-Class Financial Services

Once again, the City of Aberdeen was recognized for exceptional, world-class service and ethical integrity in financial management and administration through award of the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA's) Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting for FY 2019. The GFOA is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting.

## Aberdeen Awarded the MD Main Street Designation

Right in the midst of our world wide pandemic, the City of Aberdeen continued to push for improvements across its downtown. After years of effort, on 17 March, 2020, the State of Maryland recognized our local initiatives by awarding West Bel Air Avenue with an official Main Street Maryland designation.

Learn more about Main Street Program by visiting:  
[www.aberdeenmd.gov/mainstreet](http://www.aberdeenmd.gov/mainstreet)





City of Aberdeen  
60 North Parke Street  
Aberdeen, Maryland 21001  
(410) 272-1600

Resident

**Have You Completed Census 2020? Deadline is September 30th!**  
Visit [census.maryland.gov](https://census.maryland.gov) to ensure Aberdeen receives federal funding for schools, infrastructure, public safety and more!

## Calendar of Events

When:	Event Description
9/7 DAY	<b>Labor Day</b> City Hall Closed
9/17 4-7PM	<b>"Be a Pirate" Day at the Farmers Market</b> Aberdeen Festival Park
9/18 Weekend	<b>APG 'Monument to Monument' 5K</b> Virtual 5k- <a href="https://tinyurl.com/y6druyel">https://tinyurl.com/y6druyel</a>
9/21—9/27: Maryland 'Bike to Work' Week	
9/26 9AM-2PM	<b>Junk in the Trunk Flea Market</b> Aberdeen Festival Park
October: 'Paint the Town Pink' for Breast Cancer Awareness	
10/29 6AM-7PM	<b>"Trunk or Treat" at the Farmers Market</b> Aberdeen Festival Park
10/31 8AM	<b>Blue Cheetah: Cats &amp; Bats 5K</b> Aberdeen Festival Park <a href="https://bluecheetahtiming.com/">bluecheetahtiming.com/</a>
11/3 DAY	<b>U.S. Election Day</b> Aberdeen Activity Center
11/11 11AM	<b>Veterans Day Ceremony (City Hall Closed)</b> Veterans Memorial Park
11/13 5:30PM	<b>Off the Streets—Sleep Out for the Homeless</b> Leidos Field at Ripken Stadium
11/26 DAY	<b>Thanksgiving Day</b> City Hall Closed Thursday and Friday
12/5 DAY	<b>Christmas Street Festivities</b> Various Locations (Call 410-272-1600)
12/19 8AM	<b>Blue Cheetah: Reindeer Run 5K</b> Aberdeen Festival Park <a href="https://bluecheetahtiming.com/">bluecheetahtiming.com/</a>
12/25 DAY	<b>Christmas Day</b> City Hall Closed

## Trash & Recycling Schedule

Zone	Collection Day	Yard Waste Days
1	Monday	1st & 3rd Friday
2	Tuesday	1st & 3rd Friday
3	Wednesday	2nd & 4th Friday
4	Thursday	2nd & 4th Friday

### Need to Know Which Zone You Are?

Visit [aberdeenmd.gov/zones](https://aberdeenmd.gov/zones) to learn more!

## 2020 Holiday Schedule

Date	Holiday	Schedule
11/11	Veteran's Day	Trash delayed one day, no bulk, Saturday yard waste. (11/14)
11/26	Thanksgiving Day	Thursday collection moved to Friday (11/27), no bulk, Saturday yard waste (11/28).
12/25	Christmas Day	No bulk, no yard waste.

### Need a Bulk Pickup for Larger Waste?

Call (410) 297-4259 Monday—Friday